

New EMS Law Effective May 2, 2005

On March 18, 2005, Governor Huntsman signed into law Senate Bill 0019 which significantly changes the reporting process for EMS personnel who are exposed to blood borne pathogens. Changes from the old law include:

- Moving workers compensation benefit information from the Health Code to the Labor Code
- Adding Hepatitis C to the presumptive eligibility for workers compensation benefits
- Simplifying the process and shortening the time required to initiate a court-order testing in the event that the source patient refuses to be tested
- Using the OSHA recommended reporting procedure added to the Bloodborne Pathogen standard in January, 2001
- Enabling agencies to send samples to laboratories of their choice instead of requiring that all samples be sent through the State Health Laboratory
- Making use of current technology, including rapid HIV testing, resulting in less EMS personnel starting on unnecessary prophylaxis therapy
- Eliminating the extra step in the reporting process of having results go through the Utah Department of Health to be reported to each agency

For the full text of the new law, please visit the following website:

<http://www.le.state.ut.us/~2005/bills/sbillenr/sb0019.htm>

For the complete OSHA Blood borne Pathogen standard, please visit:

http://www.osha.gov/pls/oshaweb/owadisp.show_document?p_table=STANDARDS&p_id=10051

Most of the revised information is in section 1910.1030(f)(3). This section gives the process for testing of the source individual.

To view or download a PowerPoint presentation of how the law new law affects the current reporting procedure, [click here](#) for OSHA Recommendations.

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